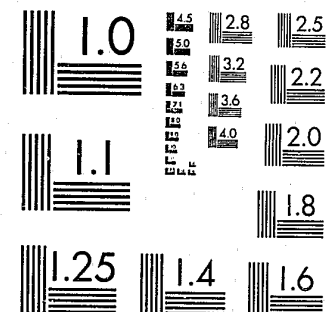


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National Institute of Justice

Program Plan

Fiscal Year 1982

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National Institute of Justice Program Plan

Fiscal Year

1982

U.S. Department of Justice
National Institute of Justice

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U.S. Department of Justice
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National Institute of Justice

James L. Underwood

Acting Director

FOREWORD

Criminal justice research has too often been episodic and fragmentary, a many-colored coat composed of strings and patches that often did not fit together with sufficient cohesion to achieve recognizable goals. In announcing its research program for fiscal year 1982, the National Institute of Justice seeks a better integrated approach by organizing its research agenda around the major focal points of the criminal justice process.

All NIJ research, evaluation, testing, and dissemination efforts can be subsumed under one or more of the following topics, which represent a rough flow chart of the criminal justice process. Each of these subjects will receive significant attention in both long-range and short-term projects.

- o The causes of crime;
- o The prevention of crime;
- o The detection and apprehension of those who have committed crimes;
- o The efficient and equitable processing of criminal cases in the courts in a manner that gives due regard to the rights of society, the victim, and the defendant;
- o The imposition of the appropriate sanction on the convicted criminal; and
- o The implementation of that sanction in the most effective and just correctional setting.

These pivotal points of criminal justice provide a quality of constancy to NIJ's research efforts. Blending intimately with these key stable themes of criminal justice research are studies and experiments designed to support the Administration's effort to combat violent crime as expressed in the mandates of the Attorney General's Task Force on Violent Crime. The major themes of the Task Force report are interwoven throughout our research agenda for 1982, as outlined in this Plan. Summarized below are some key Task Force recommendations and proposed research responsive to them.

Exclusionary Rule Reform	Research and develop alternatives to the exclusionary rule.
Bail Reform	Explore the concept of dangerousness and its use in pretrial decisionmaking.
Assistance to Victims	<p>Prepare and disseminate a model program on victim services for State and local governments.</p> <p>Conduct a comparative evaluation of victim assistance projects.</p> <p>Study how the degree of victim harm is utilized in criminal justice decisionmaking.</p> <p>Study the impact of evidentiary rules on victim participation in criminal proceedings.</p> <p>Complete evaluation of a test involving victim participation in plea bargaining.</p> <p>Prepare and disseminate a guide on victim compensation programs for State legislatures.</p>
Career Criminals	<p>Evaluate programs for selective prosecution of violent habitual offenders.</p> <p>Expand the Institute's research program on career criminals.</p>
Firearms	<p>Support research to detect and apprehend persons unlawfully carrying guns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - illicit firearms market - development of gun detection devices.
Violent Crime	<p>Conduct with the Bureau of Justice Statistics an analysis of violent crime trends and patterns.</p> <p>Support research on the control of robbery and homicide.</p> <p>Develop better methods for postrelease control of violent offenders.</p> <p>Support research on methods to improve prediction of violent behavior.</p> <p>Develop programs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - improve directed police patrol strategies - enhance commercial security against robbery and burglary. <p>Conduct a training workshop on the criminal courts' response to nonstranger violence.</p>

The six key elements of the research agenda described above, mixed with the revitalizing ingredient of the serious crime initiative, compose a relatively well-organized, clearly articulated research policy. More precise definition of the fundamental research needs of the criminal justice process is needed, however. Accordingly, I have organized a long-range planning group, which will assess NIJ's traditional priorities to determine what progress has been made in each area and which subjects remain unexplored or incompletely explored. The long-range planning group will not limit itself to an examination of the degree of success achieved under each topic of emphasis; it will also address the more fundamental question of whether NIJ is giving priority to the right questions in setting its research agenda.

In constructing our program for fiscal year 1982, we have consulted with many members of the research and practitioner communities. A continuing dialog with knowledgeable professionals outside NIJ will be even more important as we proceed with long-range planning. To that end, I invite your opinions and comments on the appropriateness of NIJ's priorities and methods.

James L. Underwood
Acting Director

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NOTE TO READER

This Program Plan is issued as a general guide to proposed areas of research emphasis by the National Institute of Justice in FY 1982. It is not a commitment to funding any project described in the following pages. All programs and projects are subject to change, pending final action by the Congress on the NIJ FY 1982 appropriation and contingent upon a Department-wide review of all research programs of the Department of Justice.

INTRODUCTION

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is a research center within the U.S. Department of Justice. Established in 1979 by the Justice System Improvement Act, NIJ builds upon the foundation laid by the former National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, the first major Federal research program on crime and justice.

MANDATE

Carrying out the mandate assigned by the Congress, the National Institute of Justice supports:

- o Basic and applied research and development to build knowledge about crime and improve and strengthen the criminal justice system.
- o Evaluations of the effectiveness of crime prevention and control policies and programs, identifying those that promise to be successful if continued or repeated.
- o Tests and demonstrations of new and improved approaches to stem criminal activity and strengthen the justice system.
- o Training of criminal justice practitioners in research and evaluation findings, and assistance to the research community through fellowships and special seminars.
- o Dissemination of information from research, demonstrations, evaluations, and special programs to Federal, State, and local governments, including operation of an international clearinghouse of justice information.

ORGANIZATION

NIJ is organized into four offices, reflecting its mandated functions:

Research Programs

The Office of Research Programs administers NIJ's basic, applied, and developmental research activities primarily through external grants and contracts. The Office includes five divisions: Police, Adjudication, Corrections, Community Crime Prevention, and the Center for the Study of the Correlates of Crime and Determinants of Criminal Behavior.

**Research and
Evaluation Methods**

The Office of Research and Evaluation Methods supports methodological research and development activities, including programs in crime control theory and performance measurement. Activities focus on research and evaluation measurement problems and systemwide research and evaluation in criminal justice.

Program Evaluation

The Office of Program Evaluation sponsors evaluations of criminal justice improvement programs. Among the studies sponsored by the Office are assessments of federally funded national programs, State and local justice system initiatives, and experimental field tests sponsored by NIJ's Office of Development, Testing, and Dissemination.

**Development, Testing,
and Dissemination**

The Office of Development, Testing, and Dissemination assures that NIJ research and evaluation findings are disseminated and applied. The Office identifies and develops program models; seeks out and documents programs of proven effectiveness; designs and sponsors field tests; supports training workshops and information sharing; provides reference, dissemination, and information services; and tests and develops standards for major items of equipment used by criminal justice agencies.

OVERALL DIRECTION

The National Institute of Justice operates under the general authority of the Attorney General. The NIJ Director oversees the entire Institute program and approves the awarding of all grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements. Institute-wide planning, analysis, and management functions are handled by a special unit which fosters a coordinated approach that builds on the results of past research.

ADVISORY BOARD

The Justice System Improvement Act of 1979 authorized creation of a 21-member NIJ Advisory Board to be appointed by the President. The Board is to recommend policies and priorities to NIJ and advise on peer review procedures. The Act specifies that the Board should represent the constituencies NIJ serves: State and local governments, criminal justice practitioners, researchers, community groups, and the general public.

**LONG-RANGE
RESEARCH
PRIORITIES**

NIJ is authorized to support research and experimentation dealing with the full range of crime prevention and criminal justice issues and related civil justice matters.

In setting research agendas, NIJ is guided by its congressional mandate, priorities established by the Attorney General, and the recommendations of researchers and practitioners in the field.

Foremost among its priorities is research on violent crime and the violent offender. In FY 1982, NIJ will pursue a systematic research agenda on serious, violent crime, a major national concern and a priority for the Department of Justice.

The Institute will expand and intensify its efforts to accumulate knowledge about criminal violence problems and about the most promising methods for stemming serious crime.

NIJ's long-range agenda also includes these priorities:

- o Career criminals and habitual offenders
- o Sentencing
- o Deterrence
- o Utilization and deployment of police resources
- o Pretrial process: consistency, fairness, and delay reduction
- o Rehabilitation
- o Community crime prevention
- o Correlates of crime and determinants of criminal behavior
- o Performance standards and measures for criminal justice

**Funding
Mechanisms**

NIJ is authorized to enter into grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts with public agencies, institutions of higher education, private organizations, and individuals. The particular funding mechanism used for each project depends upon the nature of the work to be performed. Projects typically are supported for 12 to 24 months; for certain projects, longer term funding may be provided in annual increments, depending upon satisfactory progress in the research.

NIJ also enters into interagency agreements with other Federal agencies for research of mutual interest. As one of several Federal research programs dealing with aspects of the crime problem, NIJ seeks opportunities to work with other Federal agencies to minimize potential overlap and pool resources, expertise, and data to study particular problems.

**Information on
Funding
Opportunities**

This booklet outlines new research and program activities proposed for FY 1982. It is published as a general guide only, and does not indicate a commitment to funding any of the projects described in this report. Detailed specifications, funding, deadlines, and application and review procedures are set forth in program solicitations issued throughout the year. Solicitations may be quite specific or may indicate broad areas of interest, allowing applicants to articulate precise topics for study as well as to propose the research design.

Solicitations proposed for each NIJ office for FY 1982 are briefly described in this Plan. Readers interested in receiving a program solicitation when it is published should write to the National Criminal Justice Reference Service, Box 6000, Rockville, Maryland 20850. Please specify the title of the announcement.

To ensure wide dissemination, NIJ program solicitations are announced in the Federal Register. Each Federal Register notice contains either the full text or a brief description of the official program announcement and instructions for obtaining additional information. Researchers interested in applying for Institute funds are urged to watch for these notices. (The Federal Register is available on a subscription basis from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.)

Requests for proposals for competitive contracts are published in the Commerce Business Daily.

NIJ also disseminates information on research plans through its Research Bulletin, published from time to time throughout the year. (To receive copies of the Bulletin, please write: Research Bulletin, National Criminal Justice Reference Service, Box 6000, Rockville, Maryland 20850.)

HOW TO APPLY

Solicited Research Program

The bulk of NIJ funds are awarded each year for projects outlined in the Program Plan. Interested applicants must obtain a copy of the program solicitation, which spells out application and review procedures to be followed and specifies the deadline. Generally, solicitations call for submission of concept papers or preliminary proposals. The length may vary depending upon the topic, but concept papers usually should not exceed 20 pages. The paper should summarize the proposed study, including objectives, methodology, milestones, anticipated products, and preliminary budget, and indicate the applicant's competence to perform the work proposed.

Based on a careful review of the concept papers, selected applicants are invited to submit full or final proposals. For programs in which the research objectives and issues are particularly well defined, NIJ may waive the concept paper stage and solicit full proposals.

Requests for full proposals do not represent a commitment by the National Institute of Justice to support a project. Final decisions on awards are made by the NIJ Director.

PEER REVIEW PROCESS

NIJ uses the peer review process to ensure fair and knowledgeable evaluation of papers and proposals. For each solicitation, the Institute obtains written reviews of proposals from in-house reviewers and outside experts drawn from the criminal justice and academic communities, research organizations, and private industry. Usually, reviews are

SELECTION CRITERIA

obtained at the concept paper stage and again at the proposal stage.

Proposals are evaluated according to the criteria specified in the program solicitation. The specific method may vary from formal numerical rankings based on weighted criteria to narrative responses only or a combination of both. In making decisions on grant awards, NIJ is guided by the recommendations of the review panel and by the following considerations:

- o Compatibility with the NIJ legislative mandate;
- o Relationship to the NIJ plan and priorities set by the Attorney General;
- o Probability of acquiring important new knowledge that advances the understanding of and the ability to solve critical problems relating to crime and the administration of justice;
- o Originality, adequacy, and economy of the research design and methods;
- o Experience, competence, and past performance record of the organization and staff.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Unsolicited Research Program

To ensure that creative approaches to justice research issues are not overlooked, NIJ also sponsors an Unsolicited Research Program. In FY 1982, there are two funding cycles for unsolicited research. As set forth in the program solicitation, the first deadline was December 1, 1981, and the second will be in June 1, 1982. Grants normally range from \$10,000 to \$120,000 for research projects of up to 2 years' duration.

The goal of the program is to fund a limited number of research proposals that address significant crime and criminal justice issues, that are of sound methodological design, and that have important implications for criminal justice policy, practice, research, and/or theory. NIJ is interested in projects submitted by experienced researchers dealing with important problems, using appropriate methodologies, and involving the analysis of data with broader research objectives.

The following types of projects are encouraged: relatively small research projects for which there are few alternative funding mechanisms; projects conducted by qualified researchers who are relatively new to the criminal justice field; replication of completed research whose findings are important to criminal justice; basic or applied research on interdisciplinary subject areas relevant to crime and criminal justice; exploratory studies in criminal justice areas in

which there has been little previous work; and research aimed at developing practical responses to criminal justice problems.

**Visiting
Fellowship
Program**

This program is open to highly qualified criminal justice professionals and scholars. Fellowship recipients come to Washington, D.C., to work on research of their own design. Project periods range from 3 months to 2 years. An annual program announcement is published by NIJ; applicants are required to submit concept papers by November 15 of each year.

**Graduate Research
Fellowships**

Each year a limited number of Institute-funded fellowships are awarded to doctoral candidates through sponsoring universities. The fellowships support students engaged in the research and writing of doctoral dissertations in criminal justice.

For Information

For additional information on these Special Programs, please request the program announcement by sending a self-addressed mailing label to Announcement (name of program), NCJRS, Box 6000, Rockville, Maryland 20850.

**OFFICE OF
RESEARCH PROGRAMS**

**W. Robert Burkhart
Director**

Police Division

**Joseph Kochanski
Acting Director**

THE FY 1982 PROGRAM PLAN

NIJ's FY 1982 research and program activities are briefly summarized in the following pages, listed under the responsible Office and Division. All programs and projects are subject to change, pending final action by the Congress on the NIJ FY 1982 appropriation and contingent upon the results of a Department-wide review of research programs of the Department of Justice. In addition, other topics for research may be selected in response to priorities identified throughout the fiscal year. The final nature and scope of research projects will be set forth in NIJ program solicitations.

The Office of Research Programs (ORP) plans and sponsors basic and applied research to increase knowledge about crime and criminal behavior and develop more effective approaches to crime prevention and control. The research agenda addresses issues related to the criminal law, formal and informal crime control processes, crime causes and correlates, the nature and impact of specific types of crime, offender characteristics and behavior, victimization, and the operations of the criminal justice system.

The Office has five divisions: Police, Adjudication, Corrections, Community Crime Prevention, and the Center for the Study of Crime Correlates and Determinants.

The projects planned for FY 1982 are designed to attack critical criminal justice problems, including the pressing issue of serious, violent crime. At the same time, the projects build on significant results from past research, adding increments of information that help form a body of knowledge that can ultimately lead to more informed and effective crime control policies.

NIJ's police research program is designed to enhance State and local law enforcement capabilities by expanding knowledge about police practices. Research has concentrated on exploring the effectiveness and efficiency of police management and operations. NIJ research on patrol, criminal investigations, response time, and alternative responses to calls for service has yielded findings that challenged traditional approaches and suggested promising new ways of delivering police services. The Division also sponsors

technological studies relating to enforcement and forensics. Research planned for FY 1982 continues the development of information and strategies that can improve police operations. The following solicitations are proposed:

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Improved Police Policies for Maintaining Public Order: There is little empirical knowledge about which police actions are appropriate and effective in the range of situations that fall under the heading of "maintaining public order." The purpose of this project is to develop sanction and control mechanisms for maintaining public order which are more appropriate than the formal arrest sanction in such situations. Some examples may be wider use of police summons, fines, peace bonds, and new point systems similar to those used in traffic enforcement. The objective of this exploratory phase would be to determine the feasibility of developing improved guidelines for judicious use of force appropriate to the variety of situations requiring police intervention.

Detecting and Apprehending Persons Unlawfully Carrying Guns: In response to a recommendation of the Attorney General's Task Force on Violent Crime, this project will investigate the state of the art and the feasibility of methods to detect weapons carried in violation of the law. The study also will analyze the legal aspects of using a particular technology to detect guns. Based on the outcome of the study, subsequent prototype development may be undertaken.

Alternatives to and the Impact of the Exclusionary Rule: Despite continuing debate about the exclusionary rule--which prohibits admission of evidence that may have been obtained illegally or improperly--little empirical data on its effects exist. This project will gather information on the nature and extent of the impact of the exclusionary rule on police operations, criminal case processing, and case outcomes. The debate on the exclusionary rule has increasingly focused on whether or not means other than the exclusionary rule can be used effectively to enforce fourth amendment standards against unreasonable search and seizure. Among the suggested alternatives are internal police department discipline proceedings and civil suits against the officer or the government entity conducting the police operation. Proponents of these alternatives suggest that they protect the citizen against police misconduct but do not punish society by making it possible for a criminal to go free because of a technical error by a policeman. The feasibility of these alternatives to the exclusionary rule will be studied.

Adjudication Division

Adjudication Division research seeks to develop knowledge about methods to improve the fairness and efficiency of the adjudication process. The Division gives priority to studies

Cheryl Martorana
Director

FY 1982 Plans

focusing on reducing unnecessary case attrition and improving consistency in the pretrial process and on enhancing the consistency and effectiveness of sentencing. In addition, research addresses the issues of selecting appropriate forums for disputes and identifying improved practices for courts, prosecutors, and defense agencies.

Projects proposed for fiscal year 1982 include:

Dangerous Defendants and Pretrial Release: Recently completed research sponsored by NIJ found that approximately one out of six defendants in an eight-city sample was rearrested during the pretrial period. Almost one-third were rearrested more than once, some as many as four times, before their original cases were settled. In the past few years, a growing number of jurisdictions have enacted legislation to permit judges to consider not only the traditional concern of flight before trial but also the community's safety in determining conditions for release of a defendant. Building upon a pilot study now in progress, this research will examine how "danger" and "community safety" are being defined, the extent to which the new laws have affected release and detention rates, release alternatives, and jail crowding.

Use of Sentence Enhancement Laws: A major goal of sentencing reform has been to reduce disparity in sentences for similarly situated offenders. At the same time, there has been increased recognition that certain offenders should receive more severe punishment, and sentencing enhancement laws have been passed providing special penalties for certain types of offenders. If such laws are applied only rarely and unevenly, disparity is reintroduced. This study will assess the use of such provisions as consecutive sentencing, habitual offender laws, and "aggravated circumstances" penalties.

Forensic Evidence in the Court: Expenditures for forensic labs nationwide are estimated to exceed \$1 billion a year. An evaluation currently underway is assessing the contribution of forensics to the investigative process. This project will conduct a similar analysis of the use of forensic evidence by prosecutors and courts, with an eye toward suggesting ways to enhance the value of forensics to the courts.

Impact of Evidentiary Rules on Victim Participation in the Criminal Justice Process: A number of questions could be addressed by research in this area: Do the rules of evidence inhibit crime reporting and the willingness of victims to cooperate with the prosecution of a case? Do State substantive and evidentiary laws on rape affect reporting of this crime and subsequent cooperation by the victim with police and prosecutors? Have recent changes in State rape laws had an effect on reporting, victim cooperation, and rape conviction rates? Are there legal alternatives that can reduce the burden on victims without infringing upon the constitutional

and legal protections accorded defendants? The precise scope of this project will be defined following a review of ongoing and recently completed research in this area by NIJ and other agencies.

**Corrections
Division**

**John Spevacek
Director**

FY 1982 Plans

Corrections Division research is divided into three categories: (1) Use of criminal sanctions, particularly studies of sentencing and use of incarceration; (2) correctional programs, particularly those in the area of rehabilitation; (3) correctional management and administration.

In FY 1982, the Division will emphasize studies relating to serious, violent offenders. Among the projects planned:

Improved Handling of Long-Term Offenders: The nation's medium and maximum security prisons are heavily populated by young offenders with serious criminal histories who are serving lengthy terms for violent crimes. These offenders create serious management problems for prison officials, particularly when institutions are overcrowded. The proposed study would attempt to identify methods for dealing with such offenders that can reduce prison tensions and improve management's ability to control prisons with predominantly long-term populations.

Controlling Offenders in the Community: One way of alleviating the current strain on prisons is through alternative corrections programs in the community for selected offenders. Knowledge is lacking about which specific forms of nonprison correctional programs can be used effectively to control specific types of offenders while allowing them to remain in the community. The proposed research would examine specific types of community alternatives--including analysis of the costs of such programs compared to the cost of incarceration--through case studies in one or more States or possibly one of more quasi-experiments.

Post-Release Control of Violent Offenders: Even though the number of prison commitments and the length of prison terms are increasing, most incarcerated violent offenders eventually will be released. The aim of this research would be to identify those offenders most in need of close control after release and to determine the forms of supervision or community restraints most effective in deterring future violent behavior.

**Community Crime
Prevention Division**

**Fred Heinzelmann
Director**

Research by the Community Crime Prevention Division focuses on several priority topics: violent crime, community crime prevention, and the needs of victims. Studies supported by the Division seek to clarify issues involved in individual and collective efforts to prevent crime and factors that influence the effectiveness of crime prevention approaches. Questions about victimization and the needs of crime victims are also being addressed. In addition, research is directed at major

types of crime--particularly violent crime, but also property, white-collar, and organized criminal activity.

FY 1982 Plans

Research proposed for FY 1982 includes:

Controlling Robbery and Homicide: The randomness and viciousness of much criminal violence is one of the most serious--and frightening--issues inherent in the current crime problem. This research would focus on those crimes in which violence occurs, typically robberies and homicides. The study will assess the extent to which violence is increasing, the circumstances under which it occurs, and interventions that may be effective in preventing or controlling violent attacks.

Analysis of Violent Crime Trends and Patterns: The objective of this project would be to survey all major available reported crime and victimization data to provide an overview of crime trends and patterns. The work would entail secondary analysis of existing data, with special attention given to identifying emerging research questions and operational needs. The project would be carried out in cooperation with the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

Impact of Victim Harm on Criminal Justice Decisions: Concern about the rights of crime victims and their role in criminal prosecution has been increasing. The Attorney General's Task Force on Violent Crime underscored such concerns and made several recommendations dealing with victim needs and rights. Among the issues raised is the need to consider the full impact of the crime on the victim as part of the criminal justice decisionmaking process. While judges do consider the degree of harm to the victim in sentencing, some jurisdictions have formalized the process by including "victim impact" statements as part of the presentence report. Other decisions besides sentencing, however, could take victim harm into account, beginning with the police response to the filing of charges and the processing of cases. This project would study the extent to which criminal justice decisions weigh victim harm, the specific approaches used, and the effects of such consideration on the victim and the criminal justice system.

Violence and the Media: The National Institute of Mental Health is completing a critical review of the empirical data relating to the media and violence. A report on the topic, which updates an earlier Surgeon General's report, is to be available soon. The report concludes that the pattern of empirical evidence now supports the conclusion that there is a link between exposure to violence in the media and various forms of violent and aggressive behavior. This project would permit a distinguished group of legal scholars and social scientists to examine the findings and implications of the

**Center for the Study
of Crime Correlates
and Determinants of
Criminal Behavior**

**Richard Linster
Acting Director**

FY 1982 Plans

NIMH report and to suggest various approaches to deal effectively with the issues it raises.

Development of more effective crime prevention and control policies can be advanced by a clearer understanding of the variety of factors that may contribute to criminal behavior and how these influences can be controlled. To this end, the Center supports research that analyzes the correlates of crime and delinquency and seeks more accurate information on the causes of crime, particularly serious crime. Because of the complexity of such research, the Center generally emphasizes multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary inquiries and longitudinal designs. Research conducted to date includes programs devoted to studies of criminal violence, career criminals, employment and crime, and econometric studies of the criminal justice system.

In FY 1982, the Center plans to issue an open solicitation for continued research on the career criminal. Plans also call for re-funding three long-term research projects now in progress. The open solicitation is:

Research on Career Criminals: Research to date points to the conclusion that a small number of offenders are responsible for a disproportionately large volume of crime. The research has lent support to the view that public policy aimed at more effective control of this handful of offenders will result in significant inroads against the crime problem. The career criminal research program will support several projects aimed at continued development of knowledge that can help in formulation of sound theories and effective crime control policies relating to career criminals.

Race, Crime and Social Policy: For the most part, theories and data that purport to explain the high rate of crime among minorities fail to demonstrate the existence of policy variables that are realistically within the control of decisionmakers. The current research in progress is examining crime rates and crime production theories among the five major U.S. racial groups. The research is focusing on racially identifiable communities, studying crime production and control as functions of variables that relate to community structure, as well as variables describing decision processes within the criminal justice system.

Drugs, Alcohol and Crime: Drug and alcohol abuse and crime are major social problems that are considered to be inter-related and mutually reinforcing. Little systematic research on the subject has been done, however, and knowledge about the effectiveness of control strategies is uncertain and often disputed. This research focuses on the initiation of these forms of behavior and how they develop. The emphasis is on situational factors leading to particular types of drug/alcohol abuse and their outcome in specific incidents, as well

**OFFICE OF RESEARCH
AND EVALUATION
METHODS**

**Richard Linster
Director**

**Crime Control
Theory**

as long-term patterns. The research complements and is coordinated with efforts in other Federal agencies directed at the supply of drugs and treatment programs for abusers.

Research on the Causes of Theft: This program is studying the nature of various kinds of theft against American business --commercial burglary, commercial larceny, and employee theft. Such crimes threaten the viability of many businesses and result in a "theft" tax upon consumers as businesses charge higher prices to offset the costs of crime.

The Office of Research and Evaluation Methods supports projects that explore methodological and measurement problems facing criminal justice researchers and evaluators. The research usually entails the development or adaptation of advanced analytical techniques to problems in crime analysis and the evaluation of criminal justice programs and processes. The Office gives priority to research programs on crime control theory and performance measurement.

The Crime Control Theory Program is concerned with one of the most fundamental criminal justice research questions: How effective are the system's sanctioning powers in actually controlling crime? The goal of the research is to develop a scientific understanding of how crime rates are affected by formal sanctioning practices and treatments.

Research in this area explores the direct impact of incarceration on crime rates as well as the deterrent effect achieved by the threat of formal punishment. Projects funded under the program have focused on serious and violent crimes as well as other types of crime and included examinations of variations in crime rates among different jurisdictions and for different time periods. Much of the research in this area has explored the effects of recent legislation passed by States to change some aspect of formal criminal sanctions--mandating specific sentence lengths for certain crimes, for example. Other projects have examined the deterrent effects associated with sanctions imposed for particular types of crimes, such as bank robbery.

Measuring the effectiveness of crime control policies presents special difficulties. It requires credible methods of counting events that never take place--for example, how many additional crimes will not be committed if convicted offenders are incarcerated for longer periods. Obviously, the validity of such estimates rests on the credibility of the models from which they are derived. For that reason, the crime control research program is concerned with devising or refining theories and model structures, testing their underlying assumptions, and validating their predictive power.

FY 1982 Plans

A single solicitation has been issued inviting research proposals relating to crime control theory. The broad program offers funds for projects that range over the spectrum of theoretical and applied research and encourages the diversity of insights afforded by a variety of disciplinary approaches. Among the general types of research eligible for support are:

Theoretical and conceptual studies aimed at explaining how the efficacy of crime control agencies might relate to more fundamental theories of social and behavioral control.

Modeling studies aimed at continued development of general frameworks of analysis that embody in their structure some plausible theory of crime control and facilitate empirical testing of theory.

Criminal classification research directed toward development of improved taxonomies of career patterns or toward achieving a better understanding of how criminal justice system interventions affect the evolution of offender lifestyles.

Perceptions research investigating questions such as determinants of variability in some populations' assessment of sanction risk or sanction cost.

Experiments or quasi-experiments intended to collect empirical evidence on variation in crime control effects with variation in sanction threat.

Design studies concerned with such things as refinement of the conceptual bases of a larger piece of contemplated research, development and pretesting of measuring instruments, etc. Generally, the program can support only modest projects of this type, and the award of such design grants does not reflect an NIJ commitment for continued support of the research.

Two review and funding cycles are anticipated for the program.

Performance Measurement

The aim of research in this area is to develop and validate performance measures to be used as management and accountability tools by criminal justice practitioners and municipal officials. As part of this aim, efforts necessarily have been directed toward developing a conceptual framework that relates performance to the actual operations of an agency and to particular issues relating to the nature of public sector agencies. In FY 1978, the Office began a multiphase program to develop a conceptual framework for evaluating performance and performance measures. That year the Office awarded five grants--one each for studies of police, prosecution and public defense, courts, adult corrections, and the system as a whole. Operating as a consortium, the grantees reviewed and synthesized their findings on performance measures within the sectors of the criminal justice system and reported on their

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findings. Continuing into the second phase of their research, consortium members are now conducting empirical studies based on their earlier research.

For FY 1982 funding, a series of awards are anticipated, exploring topics along these general lines:

Defining Performance: Issues pertaining to oversight of an agency could be addressed by questions such as: Who evaluates an agency's performance? What are the evaluation criteria? Do agencies use formal or informal definitions of performance? What sources of information (statistics, media, peers) exert the greatest influence on the performance assessment?

Understanding Agency Technologies: Identifying agency products and services and describing how they are produced would be the focus of this research area. Building on the few studies on this topic, the research would identify the services delivered by agencies and the possible tradeoffs among these services under various combinations of resources.

Developing Causal Links: The relationships of agency activities, products, and outcomes would be addressed under this topic. Studies would examine the process of translating agency resources into services in order to identify the critical points in this process where the measurement of performance is essential. The studies also would furnish evidence detailing to what degree agency objectives are achievable.

Methodology Research

This program supports research of high technical merit that advances the capability of studying crime and evaluating criminal justice programs and processes. The program is aimed at improving the precision and accuracy of measures used in crime and criminal justice studies, promoting economy and efficiency in study designs, and enhancing the significance and cogency of study conclusions. Among the studies funded under this program are: (1) a microeconomic model of the prison system as an industry; (2) the testing of a special randomized response technique for improving the accuracy of responses in studies relying on self-reports of criminal activity; (3) an examination of possible models for estimating the incidence and prevalence of criminal activity for use in assessing the effectiveness of crime control policies; (4) a study of the various definitions of "arrest" as it is reported by police departments for the Uniform Crime Reports.

Another emphasis of the program is the development of valid techniques for classifying offenders. Classification of the dangerous defendant or the serious offender--these and similar decisions for handling and treating offenders are made at critical stages throughout the criminal justice process. In turn, the grouping of offenders bears on predictions about their future behavior. Despite the crucial need to develop

reliable classification techniques that also may serve to predict future behavior with confidence, there have been few systematic and rigorous examinations of the validity of either existing classification systems or prediction techniques.

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Research support for studies on offender taxonomy and prediction techniques will be strongly emphasized in FY 1982. It is anticipated that about half of the funds for methodology research would be available for projects that explore classification and prediction approaches.

OFFICE OF PROGRAM EVALUATION

Lawrence A. Bennett
Director

The Office of Program Evaluation assesses criminal justice programs and procedures, evaluating their efficiency and effectiveness as well as the feasibility of their implementation in other jurisdictions. A key aim of the Office is to furnish evidence to the criminal justice community about what programs work best, under what conditions, and at what costs.

In carrying out its function, the Office's evaluation efforts fall into several broad categories. Criminal justice programs that have been widely funded and implemented in a number of sites are examined to learn what aspects of the programs seem to work best, and why, and what difficulties might be encountered by other jurisdictions that are considering a similar program. In addition, the Office supports the independent evaluation of NIJ-sponsored field tests and assists in constructing the Institute designs for field tests. Finally, the Office evaluates special experimental or innovative programs at the State or local level to determine their impact and usefulness for other localities. Assessment of the impact of shifts in criminal justice policy, especially as a result of legislative initiatives, also fall within the Office's area of responsibility.

In coordination with other NIJ offices, the Office of Program Evaluation assesses whether research results offer a testable hypothesis that is also operationally feasible, and whether the programs can achieve the desired goals as well as the anticipated outcome. For the most part, these functions are carried out in conjunction with NIJ-sponsored field tests of experimental programs, under the direction of the Office of Development, Testing, and Dissemination. Related responsibilities may involve evaluating concepts or recommendations originating from NIJ research, sponsored by the Office of Research programs, as well as techniques developed or assessed under the sponsorship of the Office of Research and Evaluation Methods.

The following evaluations are proposed:

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Evaluation of Early Appointment of Defense Counsel Field Test: Building on an NIJ study of the appointment of defense counsel, this field test will examine whether the assignment of a defense attorney earlier in the criminal justice process

leads to a more cost effective disposition as well as a fairer representation of the defendant. The evaluation will examine factors related to defendant representation and efficient case disposition as well as such measures as the level and rate of negotiated pleas and their outcome, the attitudes of victims and defendants, the rate of changes in appealed verdicts, the speed of case disposition, the caseload of the public defender's office, and prosecutorial practices.

Reintegrating the Serious Offender: This proposed field test would replicate an experiment in the mid-sixties at the Vacaville corrections facility in California. The "New Careers" program provided short-term, intensive training to a small group of inmates--most with lengthy criminal histories--just prior to their release. Evaluation showed that the participants did better on parole than a control group and were more successful than their base expectancy scores predicted. An individual followup showed significant professional and academic advancement by the "New Careerists." Because of the small sample size and the time that has elapsed since the experiment, it is impossible to generalize from the results. The proposed field test will examine whether the model can be implemented by new trainers under current conditions with similar results. It will also seek to learn whether the results hold up if the number of participants is increased, to document the costs and benefits of the approach, and to clarify the theoretical implications of the model.

Comparative Assessment of Victim Assistance Projects: An NIJ-sponsored assessment of victim/witness programs throughout the country gathered available information and concluded that the programs are meeting the needs of their clients. In addition to determining what could be learned about the programs, the evaluation also identified gaps in knowledge that need to be addressed. Among these are the relative benefits of alternative approaches to crisis intervention. Immediate assistance to the victim, at the scene, is generally considered preferable to the alternative approach of screening police reports or relying on other sources for delivering services to victims. Nevertheless, the on-scene crisis intervention approach is implemented less often because of the greater costs in time and resources. This evaluation will compare the two approaches, assessing their costs and relative benefits to clients and to police.

Selective Prosecution of Violent Offenders: Through LEAA's Career Criminal Program, the special prosecutors' units throughout the country employ a variety of techniques for building stronger cases leading to conviction and stiffer sentences for the habitual offender. Building on an earlier NIJ-evaluation of selected career criminal sites, this assessment would focus on the prosecution of the violent offender in two or three career criminal programs, gauging the impact of

their strategies on such measures as the rates of conviction and the length of sentences.

Evaluation of Model Prison Classification Systems: A burgeoning prison population, the rise in prison violence, and the ever-increasing costs of constructing maximum custody facilities underscore the need for a reliable inmate classification system. Research funded by the National Institute of Corrections has produced two classification models which presently are being implemented in a number of States. This evaluation would assess the adequacy of each system. Also explored would be the extent to which the systems provide a useful method for incarcerating inmates in appropriate housing quarters and in a manner that increases safety as well as reduces costs.

General Evaluation Program: To ensure that ample opportunity is provided for assessing particularly innovative programs in the criminal justice community, a general solicitation is proposed which will offer support for evaluations of concepts or programs that might be adopted on a larger scale. It is anticipated that three or four projects would be funded under this program.

OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT,
TESTING, AND
DISSEMINATION

Paul Cascarano
Director

The Office of Development, Testing, and Dissemination supports a range of applied research and dissemination programs that respond to NIJ's legislative mandate. The Office is responsible for assessing research results for program implications, testing promising new crime control methods, and recommending actions States and localities can take to enhance the capabilities of the criminal justice system. Its functions also include identifying and disseminating information on programs that have demonstrated success, training criminal justice administrators and practitioners in the practical application of research and evaluation findings, disseminating new knowledge to the field, and operating an international clearinghouse for information relating to crime and justice.

The programs supported by the Office are designed to enable State and local governments to understand and apply knowledge produced by NIJ research and experimentation. The Office identifies findings with practical value for practitioners and policymakers, validates their effectiveness and usefulness through applied research, and, through a variety of dissemination vehicles, transfers research and test results to State and local authorities who can take action. This work is carried out by three divisions: the Model Program Development Division, the Testing and Training Division, and the Reference and Dissemination Division.

MODEL PROGRAM
DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION

Virginia Baldau
Acting Director

Research Assessment
and Program
Development

Program Models

FY 1982 Plans

The process begins in the Model Program Development Division, which identifies research findings with implications for action, assesses related practical experience, and designs field tests of promising new approaches. Results are presented in publication series targeted to practitioners and policymakers. The Division also conducts the Exemplary Projects Program--a systematic method of identifying and transferring knowledge about successful programs at the State and local level. A description of the Division's products and FY 1982 plans follows:

Most products are developed under a contract. Work on a particular product may be subcontracted to individuals or research organizations with expertise in specific topic areas.

Program Models are state-of-the-art syntheses of research and evaluation findings, operational experience, and expert opinion in a topic area. Each study includes a literature review, extensive interviews with practitioners, and on-site assessments of operational projects. An advisory group of researchers and practitioners knowledgeable in the topic area critique the methodology, advise on site selection and review the final report. Based on their data analysis, the researchers present a range of program options that local jurisdictions can consider and review the advantages and disadvantages of each. In addition, the study may reveal hypotheses suitable for field testing or gaps in knowledge requiring further research.

A total of 24 Program Models have been developed. Among those recently published are Arson Prevention and Control, Rape: Guidelines for a Community Response, and Employment Services for Ex-Offenders.

In FY 1982, work will begin on Program Models drawn from among the following topics:

Police Fiscal Decisionmaking: This study will provide decisionmaking models for maximizing police performance and minimizing employee dissatisfaction during periods of fiscal austerity. The report will focus upon the experiences of a number of jurisdictions which have recently undergone major police budget cuts. The researchers will review methods for planning and analyzing alternative budget decisions and provide examples of cost-cutting measures.

Investigative Information Systems for Police: NIJ research has shown that case screening and involvement of patrol officers in preliminary investigations can improve the investigative process. Field testing indicates, however, that reaping the full benefit of these concepts requires a monitoring system that provides information on investigative performance and data on types of cases that are or should be screened. This study will synthesize research and practical

experience, formulating guidelines on collecting, storing, and retrieving the information needed to manage the investigative function.

Restitution Programs: This project will draw on an NIJ evaluation of approximately 10 restitution programs throughout the country. In addition to a synthesis of this and related research, the study will incorporate results from a current examination of several other restitution programs. The report will outline options for policymakers and practitioners interested in installing restitution programs in their jurisdictions.

Organizing Neighborhoods Against Crime: NIJ-funded research has demonstrated the effectiveness of citizen efforts in impeding crime, enhancing security, and contributing to effective police response as well as the investigation and prosecution of offenders. This study will focus on neighborhood crime prevention activities, emphasizing the link between the criminal justice system and citizen and community activities. Among the topics to be addressed are formal and informal social controls in the neighborhood; crime prevention activities including the targeting of specific crimes, block patrols, property marking, and residential security inspections; and reclaiming deteriorated areas. The document is designed for community organizations and police departments, emphasizing the crime prevention strategies and organizational arrangements found effective for different types of neighborhoods.

Victim Services: Meeting the Needs of the Individual and the Criminal Justice System: The experiences of victim/witness programs throughout the country and recently completed research findings will serve as the foundation for this state-of-the-art analysis. The report will identify programs that have achieved both careful treatment of victims as well as strong relationships with criminal justice personnel, particularly the police. In addition, the document will address the problem of providing effective services for victims and witnesses in the face of shrinking resources.

Victim Compensation: In response to a recommendation of the Attorney General's Violent Crime Task Force, this study will build on earlier NIJ work and other research on the topic, updating information on the experience with different forms of victim compensation programs and focusing on issues of current concern. In addition to assessing the relative advantages and disadvantages of different program structures, it will gather more recent information on costs and revenue sources of various programs. Also included will be a detailed analysis of the experience of States which fund programs from fines and those which have made recent changes in their benefit structure and/or eligibility requirements. The experience of States where victim compensation programs have incurred

significant problems and/or been abandoned will be examined for the instruction they may provide for future efforts.

Cost Analysis in the Courts: This study will assist State and local court systems in applying cost analysis techniques in court administration. The report will draw upon research on performance measures for court systems as well as cost analyses techniques developed by State and local court systems. The report will isolate individual functions of prosecutors, defense counsel, and the courts and examine the costs of specific tasks--such as bail hearings, continuances, and trials--involved in each function.

Policy and Design Considerations in Constructing Correctional Facilities: This 2-volume Program Model will draw on the wealth of information relating to prison construction, including the extensive NIJ-sponsored study of the costs and capacity of the Nation's prisons and jails, recently developed accreditation standards, and architectural and planning policy. The first volume will focus on the decision to build, examining the nature and magnitude of prison crowding problems, the issues and costs to be considered in deciding whether or not to construct new facilities, and the advantages and disadvantages of available nonconstruction options for managing crowding pressures. The second volume will focus on the policy, design, and operating issues that become critical once the decision to build, expand, or renovate has been made. Particular attention will be given to the implications of these decisions for prison management and long-term operating costs.

Correctional Management of Violent, Long-Term, and Other Special Inmates. Inmates who threaten the security of institutions or who pose special treatment problems because of alcohol or drug dependency or mental or physical handicaps are the focus of this analysis. The report will draw on previous research, including studies of inmate violence and prison discipline as well as programs for the mentally retarded offender and the drug abuser. Issues to be addressed include classification techniques, grievance procedures, protective custody, and inmate rights and discipline. Designed as a tool for correctional administrators, the report will describe effective strategies for handling and treating these particular groups of inmates.

Throughout the fiscal year, research findings are reviewed for possible Program Model topics. Depending upon the outcome of research and evaluation now in progress, the following topics may become candidates for study:

Vertical vs. Horizontal Case Processing in Prosecution: Research and experience have highlighted the importance of how cases are handled by the prosecutor. One issue that has emerged is vertical vs. horizontal processing: whether a case

is assigned to one assistant prosecutor through disposition or sentencing or to different assistants at various stages in the process. The proposed study would review research and practice and report on the number and type of prosecutors' offices now using vertical processing, the extent of use within different types of offices, and the background, rationale, and evaluation of those choices. The report will identify which offices have successfully integrated vertical prosecution in their operations.

Correctional Accreditation as a Management Tool: This study will review the results of the LEAA Accreditation Program, a series of 11 statewide demonstration projects to determine whether a wide range of improvements in correctional services and facilities could be achieved through systematic implementation of standards and subsequent accreditation. The report will synthesize the findings of the program and highlight the most promising management strategies and techniques for upgrading correctional facilities and services through accreditation.

Work is in progress on the following Program Models, which are expected to be completed in FY 1982:

- o Citation in Lieu of Arrest
- o Measuring the Costs of Police Services
- o Police Work Scheduling
- o Police Resource Sharing
- o Coping with Stress in Policing
- o Vehicle Theft Prevention Strategies
- o Economic Analysis Techniques in Corrections
- o Managing the Institutional Environment
- o Probation Under Fiscal Constraints
- o Mediation and Arbitration in Small Claims Courts
- o Non-Financial Pretrial Release Practices
- o Social Service Programming in Defender's Offices
- o Interpreting Services in the Criminal Courts.

Monographs

The Division also publishes monographs on significant topics. These reports critically review available research and selected program experience and pinpoint areas that require further study.

The following monograph is proposed for FY 1982:

Crime in Schools: In response to a recommendation of the Attorney General's Task Force on Violent Crime, a sourcebook for school administrators, law enforcement personnel, and the courts will be developed. It will provide an overview and analysis of the problem of crime, victimization, and fear in schools, as well as a review of programs to prevent, deter, and prosecute crime in school settings. Key police issues will be discussed, which will provide guidance to school

administrators in addressing school crime. Practical recommendations for the reduction of school crime will be made, including methods for data collection and analysis, policy formulation, and improved coordination through memoranda of understanding between school districts, law enforcement personnel, and the courts.

Completion of the following monographs is anticipated in FY 1982:

- o Fraud and Abuse in Government Benefit Programs: The Case for a Prevention Focus
- o Grand Jury Reform
- o Crime Prevention: Midwood-Kings Highway Development Corporation Project.
- o Decriminalization of Public Drunkenness.

Test Designs

Test Designs are detailed experimental or quasi-experimental designs for testing the effectiveness of particular concepts or programs under actual operating conditions in selected jurisdictions. Each design is developed by an inter-Office team chaired by Division staff and reviewed by an external advisory board. The test design spells out the experimental conditions for implementation and evaluation, defines the methodology and the hypotheses to be tested, and specifies criteria for selecting the experimental sites. Implementation of the tests is monitored by ODTD's Training and Testing Division; evaluations of the experiments are conducted under the auspices of the Office of Program Evaluation.

FY 1982 Plans

Field Test programs to be designed in FY 1982 include:

Police Citation in Lieu of Arrest: Increasingly, police departments must cope with budgets that shrink or remain stable in the face of higher costs. The ability to expend enforcement efforts in such priority areas as serious crime means that existing resources must be reallocated. Police citations rather than formal arrest for some crimes offers promise as a tool for achieving greater efficiency. Although a large number of States and jurisdictions have laws authorizing extensive use of citation in lieu of arrest, few use the approach for any but the most minor offenses. Building on previous research and demonstration results, the proposed Test Design will apply police citation to a wider range of offenses, including some felonies. The test will determine the impact of the approach on police workload, failure to appear rates, jail populations, court workload, and criminal justice costs.

Reintegrating the Serious Offender: The proposed test would replicate an experiment in the mid-sixties at the Vacaville corrections facility in California. The "New Careers" program provided short term, intensive training to a small group of inmates--most with lengthy criminal histories--just prior to

their release. Evaluation showed that the participants did better on parole than a control group and were more successful than their base expectancy scores predicted. An individual followup showed significant professional and academic advancement by the "New Careerists." Because of the small sample size and the time that has elapsed since the experiment, it is impossible to generalize from the results. The proposed field test will examine whether the model can be implemented by new trainers under current conditions with similar results. It will also seek to learn whether the results hold up if the number of participants is increased, to document the costs and benefits of the approach, and to clarify the theoretical implications of the model.

Program Designs

Program Designs are detailed implementation guides for model programs that have been refined on the basis of evaluations of either NIJ field tests or LEAA demonstration programs. Program Designs explain the practical constraints on the test or demonstration model and the lessons the experience provides for communities interested in replicating the model program. The Program Design serves as a guidebook for communities on promising approaches, outlining what to do, how to do it, and what to avoid.

FY 1982 Plans

In FY 1982, program designs are tentatively planned on:

Directed Patrol Strategies: This report will synthesize findings of the Managing Patrol Operations Field Test and results from several research, evaluation, and field experiments. Primary emphasis will be on reviewing tactics that are effective in controlling specific types of criminal activity--for example, blend and decoy operations targeted against street crimes--or those which enable police to provide cost-effective services--for example, telephone reporting of certain types of crime. The report will aid local departments in planning and implementing these strategies and will describe conditions necessary for their success.

Commercial Security Against Robbery and Burglary: This Program Design will review the findings from the NIJ Commercial Security Field Test Program. It will assess the effectiveness of implementing a cooperative strategy between police and business in conducting crime prevention surveys; stimulating business participation in crime prevention; and improving the rate of compliance with survey recommendations. The report also will analyze the extent to which the cooperative approach improves long-term police/business community relations.

Policy Briefs

Policy Briefs are concise reviews of the implications of significant research for legislators and government executives. The publications usually include sample legislation. Begun in 1979, the series has covered Administrative Adjudication of Traffic Offenses, Career

Criminals, Neighborhood Justice Centers, and Crime Victim Compensation. Briefs on Mandatory Sentencing (based on evaluations of the New York Drug Law and Massachusetts Gun Law), and Consumer Fraud Legislation are nearing completion.

FY 1982 Plans

Topics planned for the series in FY 1982 include the following:

Dealing with School Crime: This Brief will examine the many complex organizational and legal issues which influence efforts to reduce crime in the schools. Organizational issues to be addressed include interactions among the schools, law enforcement personnel, and the court. Legal issues will address search and seizure, chain of custody, legal liability, double jeopardy resulting from school and court actions and procedural due process. The Brief also will include an analysis of legislative developments in this field.

Support for Child Victims of Sexual Abuse: This Brief will synthesize available information on approaches that can improve the criminal justice system's handling of child victims of sexual abuse. It will focus on legislative reforms, such as changes in sexual assault statutes or elimination of corroborating evidence requirements in cases involving child victims. Procedural changes also will be reviewed, such as joint interviewing of the child victim by both police and prosecutor to minimize trauma to the child.

Statewide Court Administration: This Brief will summarize research findings on statewide consolidation of courts, identifying the problems and benefits of the approach. Examples of legislation authorizing the change to statewide administration will be included. Plans call for additional reports to be developed in the future on other aspects of statewide delivery of criminal justice services.

Pending review of anticipated research results, Policy Briefs also may be developed on:

The Mental Health Evaluation: Competency To Stand Trial: This Brief would review the policy implications of research on a defendant's ability to assist in his/her own defense and understand the proceedings in which he/she is involved. The report will look at a variety of models for dealing with the competency evaluation, including experience with pretrial screening units, and provide information on standardized instruments and criteria for assessing competency to stand trial.

State Experience with Parole Guidelines: This Brief will summarize existing knowledge about development and implementation of Federal parole guidelines and report on evaluation findings regarding implementation of parole guidelines in

Oregon. Advantages and disadvantages of the Oregon approach will be delineated, including characteristics and benefits common to other sentencing reforms such as determinate sentencing and sentencing guidelines, changes in existing law or practice required, effect on judicial and parole discretion, and effect on prison populations.

Exemplary Projects

The Exemplary Projects Program identifies and validates criminal justice initiatives at the local or State level whose success has been verified by evaluation. All applications for Exemplary Project status are carefully screened by Division staff and validated by an independent contractor. Final selection is made by a board of NIJ representatives and outside experts.

FY 1982 Plans

Beginning in 1982, the emphasis in the Exemplary Projects Program will shift from identifying projects addressing needs or problems in any aspect of the criminal justice system, to a specific focus identified each year. In addition, NIJ will actively seek out qualified projects as well as continue to accept nominations from State and local agencies.

In FY 1982, the focus is on police, prosecution, and corrections programs to combat violent crime. Through literature reviews, interviews, and expert opinion, NIJ is launching an intensive effort to uncover innovative, successful anticrime projects that can be adopted by other jurisdictions. Projects identified through this process will be invited to submit applications. NIJ also plans additional dissemination vehicles for the information developed through this search. A survey report, for example, will be published to give State and local agencies prompt information about useful approaches to controlling serious crime.

TRAINING AND TESTING DIVISION

Louis Mayo
Director

Field Tests

The Training and Testing Division oversees implementation of NIJ Field Tests and sponsors the Criminal Justice Research Utilization Program to accelerate awareness and understanding of research findings and to encourage application of new concepts and approaches in criminal justice.

The Field Test Program rigorously examines the implementation of experimental policies and practices in selected jurisdictions. Typically, the experimental program is tested in up to three different locations for periods of 18 months to 2 years. Working in conjunction with NIJ research, development, and evaluation staff, the Training and Testing Division participates in developing the test designs described earlier and then supervises site assessment, funding, and implementation of the model to be tested. Specialized training and technical assistance is provided in each site through the Criminal Justice Research Utilization Program described below.

FY 1982 Plans

The following field tests are planned for implementation in FY 1982:

Early Representation by Defense Counsel: This test will determine the effects of prompt appointment of defense counsel on the operations of participating public defender agencies, the quality of attorney-client relations, and felony case processing. Each site will develop procedures that permit indigent clients to be represented at or soon after arrest and sufficiently in advance of the initial court appearance. The test will determine whether early representation speeds case disposition and improves the overall quality of counsel.

Reintegrating the Serious Offender: (This field test is described on page 23.)

Criminal Justice Research Utilization Program

The program supports training and technical assistance to field test sites and a nationwide series of workshops that transfer research findings with policy and program implications to senior State and local officials. The program also includes special national workshops on particularly significant research findings or issues of critical concern to the criminal justice systems. A limited amount of funds are also made available to permit selected State and local officials to observe firsthand the operations of projects of proven effectiveness.

FY 1982 Plans

In FY 1982, two workshop series are planned. Topics will be selected from among the following:

Cost-Effectiveness in Police Programs: This workshop would build upon considerable NIJ research and materials from a previous workshop on "Managing the Pressures of Inflation in Criminal Justice." The workshop would give police administrators and planners a state-of-the-art review of performance measurement and cost accounting and a look at how selected cities are using such tools to manage police budgets more effectively.

Non-Stranger Violence: The Criminal Courts' Response: Research suggests that in a significant number of felony cases in the criminal courts, the victim and defendant know each other. The influx of "prior relationship" cases raises questions about their impact on the courts: Are they a drain on resources that hinders the courts' ability to handle other cases of serious crime? Results of NIJ research now in progress would form the basis of the workshop.

Cost Analysis Techniques in Corrections: This workshop would cover economic analysis techniques for corrections decisionmakers. Course content will be based upon a forthcoming Program Model, "Economic Analysis Techniques in Corrections," scheduled for completion in FY 1982.

The Research Utilization Program also includes the Technology Transfer Program, which supports visits by State and local officials to selected Exemplary Project sites for periods of up to 2 weeks. The opportunity to observe and participate in project operations enhances the prospects for replication of these successful projects.

REFERENCE AND DISSEMINATION DIVISION

Paul Estaver
Director

The Reference and Dissemination Division helps fulfill NIJ's wide-ranging mandate to disseminate results from its research and to serve as a clearinghouse for information on crime and justice. The Division handles publication of all Institute reports, produces a variety of publications and informational materials for the research and practitioner community, sponsors an annual review of justice research, and prepares a biennial report to the Congress on the state of justice research. In addition, the Division supports an applied research program that assesses technological needs of justice system agencies, and maintains a standard-setting and testing process to meet those needs.

International Clearinghouse

The Division operates The National Criminal Justice Reference Service, an international clearinghouse of information on crime and justice. Its computerized data base contains more than 60,000 items and serves an audience of 40,000 users. Reference specialists respond to individual requests with data base searches or bibliographic packages on justice topics. NCJRS publishes a range of materials including bibliographies and a bimonthly bulletin--the Selective Notification of Information--announcing important new acquisitions to the data base. NCJRS also provides copies of NIJ research solicitations on request. Write: NCJRS, Box 6000, Rockville, Maryland 20850.

FY 1982 Plans

NCJRS will continue operations under an existing contract. Plans call for an emphasis on cost recovery, with some services offered at a modest fee.

Publications

The Division supervises publication and distribution of Institute research and program documents. Its in-house publications program produces specialized information products including newsletters, the annual program plan, and the biennial report to Congress. It also supports an annual review of research, Crime and Justice. Volumes I, II, and III of Crime and Justice have been published, and Volume IV will appear in the fall of 1982. Contributors include noted scholars from the United States and abroad.

Technology Assessment Program

The Division also is responsible for an applied research program that assesses the technological needs of justice system agencies, sets performance standards for specific items, tests commercially available equipment against those standards, and disseminates the test results. The Program operates through:

- o The Advisory Panel of practitioners and researchers, which identifies priorities;
 - o The Standards Laboratory (within the National Bureau of Standards), which develops scientifically sound standards for needed equipment and certifies independent laboratories to conduct tests of equipment available on the market; and
 - o The Information Center (operated by the International Association of Chiefs of Police), which supervises the test process, disseminates the results to criminal justice agencies, and also maintains a toll-free telephone number that State and local agencies can use to obtain information and advice on specific problems.
- o Continuation of the Program is planned for FY 1982 under existing grants and interagency agreements. Plans call for developing performance standards for police dispatch systems, weapons, alarms, and investigative aids; certifying independent laboratories for testing; and developing standard reference materials for forensic laboratories.

FY 1982 Plans

END